## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05

PC-01 /056 W

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R 020115Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2675

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, CE

SUBJ: UF'S "DIVIDED WE STAND" PRINCIPLE HIGHLIGHTS MAY

DAY CELEBRATIONS

1. FOLLOWING WELL-ORGANIZED SIX-HOUR PROCESSION BY UNITED FRONT AFFILIATED LABOR UNIONS, CROWD ESTIMATED AT 250,000 WAS TREATED TO SERIES OF DIALOGUES OF THE DEAF BY LEADING UF POLITICIANS AND LABOR LEADERS ON MAJOR ISSUES CONFRONTING BANDARANAIKE MINISTRY. ACTING PM MAITHRIPALA SENANAYEKE LED OFF MASS RALLY BY WARNING OF UF COLAITION'S INTERNAL RIFTS. SUCCESSIVE SPAKERS CONFRIMED SENANAYEKE'S FEARS BY PRESENTING DIVERGENT VIEWS ONNEED FOR ELECTIONS IN 1977, LANKA SAMA SAMAJA (LSSP) - BACKED PRIVATE ARMIES PROPOSAL, AND UF'S NEXT STEPS IN MARCH TO SOCIALISM. LONG-GESTATING CHARTER OF WORKERS RIGHTS, PUBLISHED FOR MAY DAY. DREW LITTLE ATTENTION, AS DID PROSPECTS FOR IMPLENTING JCTUO "28 DEMANDS." IN SEPARATE RALLY UNITED NATIONAL PARTY (UNP) SUPPORTERS HEARD LEADY OF OPPOSITION J.R. JAYAWARDENE (A) PLEDGE SWEEPING NATIONALIZATION OF "BOOT LICKING" BUSINESSMEN WHO REEJILY CHANGE FLAGS, AND (B) DEMAND EARLY ELECTIONS. HPPORT FOR "PRG" VIETNAM "LIBERATION" WAS REFLECTED IN ALL QUARTERS.

2. MUCH-PUBLICIZED COMPETITION BETWEEN KUMAR RUPASINGHE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND ANURA BANDARANAIKE EXPRESSED ITESELF ONLY IN THEIR

CADRES' EFFORTS TO OUTDO EACH OTHER IN MARCHING, MUSCI, AND DANCING. MAXIMUM POLICE SECURITY MEASURES WERE IN EFFECT, AND NO SIGNIFICANT VIOLENCE HAS BEEN REPORTED. NUMBEROUS LSSP, COMMUNIST PARTY (CP), AND JANAVEGAYA BANNERS WARNING PRIME MINISTER AGAINST DIALOGUE WITH UNP UNDOUBTEDLY SUMMARIZED LEFTISTS' INCENTIVE FOR LARGE TURN-OUT. PRIME MINISTER, BY HER ABSENCE, WAS SPARED NEED TO RESPOND FOR THE MOMENT. BYRNE

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PARTY LINE, LABOR UNIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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